



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

CN# 18-07

MEMORANDUM

To: School Health & Nutrition Program Sponsors

From: Mary Szafranski, Deputy Associate Superintendent
Arizona Department of Education, Health & Nutrition Services
Kacey Frey, NSLP Health Director
Arizona Department of Education, School Health & Nutrition Programs

Date: October 2, 2006

RE: Clarification on the Substitution of NSLP meal patterns and use of Offer vs. Serve for CACFP meals

Original Signed

This memorandum serves as an update from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide all Local Education Agencies (LEAs) information regarding the substitution of the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) meal patterns and the use of Offer vs. Serve (OVS) for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

For NSLP sponsors providing CACFP participants with meals; CACFP is allowed under 7 CFR 226.20(o) to substitute the NSLP menu planning approaches for the CACFP meal pattern requirements.

The provision also allows CACFP participants to use OVS for school age children who are already familiar with OVS through their participation in NSLP. However for the adult day care centers who find it beneficial to contract with NSLP sponsors for meals, the OVS for adult meals must follow the requirement described in the CACFP regulation in 7 CFR 226.20(q). These requirements are specific to the CACFP adult meal patterns and permits adult participants to decline certain food items.

In general, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) does not recommend that CACFP use OVS for preschool children as it may interfere with CACFP program nutrition goals and the

institution's efforts to introduce new foods to children. Therefore, ADE encourages CACFP institutions to use family style service as described in FNS Instruction 789-9,Rev.2, as a way to provide younger children some choice in the types and amounts of foods selected.

CACFP institutions that may benefit from the use of OVS include those caring for school age children in outside-school-hours care centers.

OVS is not permitted to be used with snack services under either NSLP or CACFP.